

FORMULA CONVERSION⁸

Here $\alpha = 10^2 \text{ cm m}^{-1}$, $\beta = 10^7 \text{ erg J}^{-1}$, $\epsilon_0 = 8.8542 \times 10^{-12} \text{ F m}^{-1}$, $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ H m}^{-1}$, $c = (\epsilon_0 \mu_0)^{-1/2} = 2.9979 \times 10^8 \text{ ms}^{-1}$, and $\hbar = 1.0546 \times 10^{-34} \text{ Js}$. To derive a dimensionally correct SI formula from one expressed in Gaussian units, substitute for each quantity according to $\bar{Q} = \bar{k}Q$, where \bar{k} is the coefficient in the second column of the table corresponding to Q (overbars denote variables expressed in Gaussian units). Thus, the formula $\bar{a}_0 = \bar{\hbar}^2 / \bar{m} \bar{e}^2$ for the Bohr radius becomes $\alpha a_0 = (\hbar \beta)^2 / [(m \beta / \alpha^2)(e^2 \alpha \beta / 4\pi \epsilon_0)]$, or $a_0 = \epsilon_0 \hbar^2 / \pi m e^2$. To go from SI to natural units in which $\hbar = c = 1$ (distinguished by a circumflex), use $Q = \hat{k}^{-1} \hat{Q}$, where \hat{k} is the coefficient corresponding to Q in the third column. Thus $\hat{a}_0 = 4\pi \epsilon_0 \hbar^2 / [(\hat{m} \hbar / c)(\hat{e}^2 \epsilon_0 \hbar c)] = 4\pi / \hat{m} \hat{e}^2$. (In transforming *from* SI units, do not substitute for ϵ_0 , μ_0 , or c .)

Physical Quantity	Gaussian Units to SI	Natural Units to SI
Capacitance	$\alpha / 4\pi \epsilon_0$	ϵ_0^{-1}
Charge	$(\alpha \beta / 4\pi \epsilon_0)^{1/2}$	$(\epsilon_0 \hbar c)^{-1/2}$
Charge density	$(\beta / 4\pi \alpha^5 \epsilon_0)^{1/2}$	$(\epsilon_0 \hbar c)^{-1/2}$
Current	$(\alpha \beta / 4\pi \epsilon_0)^{1/2}$	$(\mu_0 / \hbar c)^{1/2}$
Current density	$(\beta / 4\pi \alpha^3 \epsilon_0)^{1/2}$	$(\mu_0 / \hbar c)^{1/2}$
Electric field	$(4\pi \beta \epsilon_0 / \alpha^3)^{1/2}$	$(\epsilon_0 / \hbar c)^{1/2}$
Electric potential	$(4\pi \beta \epsilon_0 / \alpha)^{1/2}$	$(\epsilon_0 / \hbar c)^{1/2}$
Electric conductivity	$(4\pi \epsilon_0)^{-1}$	ϵ_0^{-1}
Energy	β	$(\hbar c)^{-1}$
Energy density	β / α^3	$(\hbar c)^{-1}$
Force	β / α	$(\hbar c)^{-1}$
Frequency	1	c^{-1}
Inductance	$4\pi \epsilon_0 / \alpha$	μ_0^{-1}
Length	α	1
Magnetic induction	$(4\pi \beta / \alpha^3 \mu_0)^{1/2}$	$(\mu_0 \hbar c)^{-1/2}$
Magnetic intensity	$(4\pi \mu_0 \beta / \alpha^3)^{1/2}$	$(\mu_0 / \hbar c)^{1/2}$
Mass	β / α^2	c / \hbar
Momentum	β / α	\hbar^{-1}
Power	β	$(\hbar c^2)^{-1}$
Pressure	β / α^3	$(\hbar c)^{-1}$
Resistance	$4\pi \epsilon_0 / \alpha$	$(\epsilon_0 / \mu_0)^{1/2}$
Time	1	c
Velocity	α	c^{-1}